



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MIDLAND MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
ON ATTEMPTED BANK ROBBERY BY EXTORTION CHARGE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in Midland, Manuel Ramos, Jr., was sentenced earlier today to 37 months in federal prison for attempting to rob the First American Bank in February 2005.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Robert Junell ordered that Ramos be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On February 18, 2005, Ramos called the bank and demanded that \$600,000 in cash be placed in a dumpster behind a local restaurant or else he would detonate several bombs he placed inside the bank as well as in a nearby elementary school. Both the bank and the school were evacuated due to Ramos' fraudulent claims.

"This man's reckless and foolish actions terrorized employees at the bank and, understandably, all the worried parents who had children at West Elementary School the morning of February 18. He deserves every month of the sentence he received today," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

This case was investigated by the Midland Joint Terrorism Task Force. Assistant United States Attorney Sandra Beckner prosecuted the case on behalf of the Government.

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